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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/623,204

07/18/2003

Wolfgang Niehoff

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500593.2005

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03/23/2006

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EXAMINER

ENSEY, BRIAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2615

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/623,204

Applicant(s)

NIEHOFF, WOLFGANG

Examiner

Brian Ensey

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2646

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bodley et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0021800.

Regarding claims 1 and 2, Bodley discloses a microphone (2) comprising: a color display (161) which is visible from the outside and which signals multiple parameters of the microphone; and a switching device (24) being provided for switching the color of the display, wherein the microphone has multicolored LED elements, wherein the LED lights can be controlled by said switching device in such a way that only a desired color is visible from the outside (See Figs. 8 and 19 and paragraphs 0011, 0060, 0071, 0074 and 0078).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bodley in view of Bejin U.S. Patent No. 5,406,729.

Regarding claim 3, Bodley discloses an illumination (161) which emits light is provided in the microphone (See paragraph 0071). Bodley does not expressly disclose the illumination is white

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light covered by a rotatable disk in which windows of different colors are formed. However, the use of a rotatable disk in which windows of different colors are formed as a light filter is well known and Bejin teaches an illumination is white light (24) covered by a rotatable disk (25) in which windows of different colors (40) are formed (See Fig. 7 and col. 2, lines 37-42 and col. 3, lines 4-10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize a multicolored, light filtering, rotating disk as taught by Bejin in the device of Bodley to provide the function of changing color of the led.

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bodley in view of Bejin in further view of Freudenschuss et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,239,356.

Regarding claims 4 and 5, the combination of Bodley in view of Bejin does not expressly disclose LED illumination is pulsed and information can be transmitted by way of the illumination and evaluated automatically by a studio TV camera system. However, Bodley teaches a wireless communication system with a microphone for use with a base station, telephone network, PC or other equipment with which sound is being transmitted and additionally in short-distance forms of communication and an led array capable of displaying multiple functions by flashing at different rates (See paragraphs 0074 and 0078). The use of pulsed light for data transmission is well known in the art and Freudenschuss teaches a wireless microphone (2) utilizing a light signal transmission system (36,37,38) to transmit data to a TV camera (1) (See Figs. 5 and 6 and col. 2, lines 37-64). Therefore , it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the data transmitted by the wireless microphone as taught by the combination of Bodley in view of Bejin to a studio TV camera system.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/27/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to the applicant's argument pertaining to **claim 1**, on page 3, lines 23-25 of the applicant's REMARKS that *Bodley discloses displaying multiple functions, this is not the same as the multiple parameters provided in the claimed invention*, the Examiner disagrees.

Bodley teaches an illuminated display (161) preferably an LED array capable of displaying multiple functions by flashing at different rates, or changing color or both (See paragraph 0071). Bodley does not specifically limit these multiple functions as strictly **off or on**. Bodley teaches the use of the headset and microphone in a wireless communication set for "communication with a base station, a telephone network, a mobile telephone, a PC or similar equipment, with which speech and sound are exchanged." (See paragraph 0078). In any of these situations, the display may provide an indication of signal strength or signal presence, battery strength etc. Further, although the applicant discusses several distinct parameters for the display of the disclosed invention, the applicant does not specifically claim any of the disclosed parameters and merely claims **multiple parameters**. It is the opinion of the examiner that these multiple parameters may be a function capable of being displayed even if it is merely power on and power off. Therefore, it is the opinion of the examiner that Bodley meets the limitations as claimed by the applicant.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Ensey whose telephone number is 571-272-7496. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT".
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

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Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street

Arlington, VA 22314

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BKE
March 17, 2006



SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER